

# EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓		
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Remarks:

Executive Secretary  
9/8/83  
Date

Executive Registry

83-4332/1

# SPECIAL REPORT

# Foreign Media Reaction

September 7, 1983

## WORLD REACTION TO U.S. ACTION ON JET TRAGEDY - VI

### Summary

Extensive worldwide media reaction on the sixth day following the Soviet attack on South Korea's passenger jet underscored the Soviet admission that it had "stopped" the airliner, and President Reagan's statement defining the measures he will take as punishment.

The President's decision on countermeasures--widely seen as "measured," "moderate" and "restrained"--was highly praised, especially in Western Europe.

The independent Times of London said the President's "restrained reaction" was "striking." Center-left Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich declared "Reagan acted as a statesman" and Milan's conservative Il Giornale today said the President no longer "looks like the reckless cowboy with an easy gun." In Tokyo, moderate Mainichi said, "We appreciate the restrained... speech."

Media in Western Europe anticipated that the next act of the drama would be the possible meeting between Secretary Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko in Madrid. Many writers took the line suggested in today's financial Les Echos of Paris which ran the headline "Shultz Will Ask Gromyko for an Accounting."

At the same time some editorialists doubted, as did Milan's centrist Corriere della Sera, that "neither the Americans nor the Soviets intend to throw away three years of work which have led to important agreements."

Moscow's reaction also prominently figured in media coverage. Istanbul's Gunes emphasized the U.S. admission about the RC-135. The liberal Irish Times of Dublin noted Moscow's insistence that "it is Reagan's fault" and "in this age of omnipresent espionage, nothing is impossible, but remains unlikely..."

Saudi Arabia's London-published al-Sharq al-Awsat judged that "both are at fault," while its sister paper, the Arab News, concluded "the blood of 269 victims...is on the hands of the United States and its leaders too."

United States Information Agency

DCI  
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REG

## WESTERN EUROPE

## BRITAIN

Soviet "Confession" Made Headlines

The Soviet admission that the South Korean passenger jet was "stopped" was front-paged in the British press today. Editorial comment held the President's response has been "measured" and "striking in its restraint," given the mood of public opinion.

Soviets: "We Did It and We'll Do It Again"

London headlines said "Moscow Finally Confesses: 'We Shot Down Jumbo'" and "Right-Wing Lashes Reagan for Failure to Impose Tough Sanctions" (Times), "World Pilots Told to Boycott Moscow" and "U.S. Displays Jet Video to Security Council" (Guardian), "At Last Russians Come Clean--'We Did It and We'll Do It Again'" (Daily Mail), "Was Jet Really a Spy in the Sky?" (Daily Express) and "At Last, Russians Admit--'We Shot It Down But It Was Mistake,' They Claim" (Daily Mirror).

Eagleburger Statement

Today's conservative Daily Telegraph reported Under Secretary Eagleburger's statement yesterday under the headline "U.S. 'Tired of Half-Truths.'"

The paper's Washington correspondent Richard Beeston reported, "The Reagan Administration last night reacted to the latest Soviet admission that it had 'stopped' the flight of the Korean airliner by demanding a full and truthful accounting from Moscow.

"'We are tired of lies and half-truths,' said...Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger. 'Decent respect for the opinion of mankind requires the Soviet Union to produce a full accounting for what transpired. It must make an unequivocal apology.'"

The paper also reported that "the United States had hoped for more worldwide support" for cancellation of Aeroflot flights and that "officials particularly had expected more strident backing from Mrs. Thatcher, the Administration's closest ally."

"President Reagan's Restrained Reaction"

Today's independent Times ran the report of Washington correspondent Nicholas Ashford that "one striking aspect...has been President Reagan's restrained reaction..."

An editorial in the same paper said, "The contents of Mr. Reagan's television address to the nation...were well measured. He again gave voice to the sense of outrage that the Soviet action necessarily evokes...

"(But) President Reagan fell some way short of calling on other nations to follow the example of the United States and Canada....Initial soundings probably told him that the idea would not be greeted widely with enthusiasm...."

#### "West Germany Clearly Pleased Over Moderate Sanctions"

The liberal Guardian said "the West German Government was clearly pleased at the moderate nature of the U.S. sanctions against the Soviet Union..."

The paper also reported that in the Madrid meeting will give Secretary Shultz "an opportunity...to test the waters and get an initial European reaction, one diplomat said..."

#### "West's Anger Expected to Eclipse Hard-Won Detente Initiatives"

Today's Financial Times Madrid correspondent wrote, "The West's anger with the Soviet Union over the (tragedy) is expected to eclipse hard-won detente initiatives at a foreign ministers' meeting of NATO, Warsaw Pact and neutral countries..."

#### "Astonishing Theory...Jet Was Carrying Spy Cameras"

Today's nationalistic Daily Express declared, "There were startling developments last night....In Washington and in London an astonishing theory was being discussed in diplomatic circles.

"This was that the Korean plane...was carrying spy cameras, and that it was destroyed on the personal orders of...Andropov because he regarded it as a heaven-sent opportunity to smash the credibility of President Reagan."

### ITALY

#### "Moscow Can No Longer Deny Truth"

The story that Moscow "finally confessed" dominated all media. Headlines were "Moscow Has Decided to Confess" (Corriere della Sera), "After Six Days of Lying, Moscow No Longer Can Deny Truth" (La Stampa), "Kremlin Confesses" (La Repubblica), "Moscow Finally Admits 'We Downed Jumbo'" (Communist l'Unita) and "Soviet Justification Is Point by Point Denial--More Charges from Washington--Too Late and Too Many Lies" (Il Tempo).

"TASS Reaction....There Seems to Be No Restraint"

A Moscow correspondent for Milan's centrist Corriere della Sera reported, "In their reaction to President Reagan's speech, the TASS attacks against the White House set a standard of violence hardly equalled by those during the most difficult moments of the cold war. There seems to be no restraint..."

"White House Intends to Proceed With Careful Approach"

The paper's New York correspondent Ugo Stille observed today that "mixing strong condemnation and moderate measures in his speech, President Reagan confirms that the White House intends to proceed with a careful approach ...to keep Moscow under the pressure of world public opinion..."

A Madrid correspondent maintained that in the CSCE the impression is that neither Americans nor Soviets intend to throw away three years of work which have led to important agreements..."

Milan's conservative Il Giornale ran the report of New York correspondent Mauro Lucentini that "at least half of the telephone calls received by the White House were in protest for (President Reagan's) moderation.

"The moderation was explained by these reasons: to refrain from compromising disarmament negotiations and the eternal reluctance of the allies to follow the American leadership..."

"New Western Response to Soviet Aggression"

Washington correspondent Marino de Medici held in today's conservative Il Tempo of Rome that "with his speech, President Reagan outlined a new type of Western response to Soviet aggression....The President...has decided to abstain from reprisal for the sake of reprisal and has actually introduced a more sophisticated concept..."

"The attempt to modify Soviet behavior may appear an impossible mission, but the United States has shown that it is trying to do so, and particularly that it is aware that it must not compromise dialogue with the USSR."

"Reagan Disappointed Rightist Supporters"

Influential leftist La Repubblica ran the view of New York correspondent Gaetano Scardocchia that "with his cautious reaction, Reagan has disappointed his rightist supporters and has surprised his Democratic critics."

"He has followed Shultz's advice which convinced him that it is necessary to avoid jeopardizing the disarmament dialogue..."

A Moscow correspondent for the paper said, "The tragedy has ruined a year of clever diplomatic initiatives. The Soviet leaders have the feeling they have fallen into a trap."

## FRANCE

### "Reagan: Very Limited Sanctions"

The Soviet admission of guilt was the lead in all Paris papers today. Among headlines were "Moscow's Confession" and "Reagan: Very Limited Sanctions" (Le Matin), "Soviets Grudgingly Confess" (Quotidien), "Moscow Admits Having Fired--Americans Play Tapes for U.N." (Liberation), "Stiff Criticism of Reagan's Softness" (Figaro) and "Shultz Will Ask Gromyko for an Accounting" (Les Echos).

### "Why Moderation?"

Today's pro-Socialist Le Matin declared, "Ronald Reagan, his face haggard and appearing uncharacteristically tired...could only use 'responsibility' to explain why the sanctions he announced were so minimal..."

"Why the moderation? Because, said the American President, 'We are more determined than ever to reduce, and if possible, to eliminate the threat hanging over humanity's head...'"

### "Reagan Thunders But Does Not Sanction"

Leftist Liberation today ran the headline "Reagan Thunders But Does Not Sanction" over Washington correspondent Michel Faure's report that "Ronald Reagan...used a firm tone and definitive words to announce that he would do nothing important against the Soviet Union."

"The strategy of the Reagan Administration is simple...to do nothing on a short time basis...means compromising nothing in the long term..."

Conservative Figaro judged, "The Reagan address will offend, disappoint, bring some praise, but above all, will erase political gaps. For 15 minutes Americans listened to the words of a chief of state and not those of a potential political candidate..."

WEST GERMANY

"Sanctions Have Found Far-Reaching Approval"

Left-of-center Westdeutsche Allgemeine of Essen today led with "the sanctions announced by President Reagan have found far-reaching approval in the Western world."

"Bonn Government spokesman Peter Boenisch said that close consultations with the United States and other countries will be continued at the CSCE...in Madrid..."

"Bonn Government Relieved"

Conservative Frankfurter Allgemeine said, "The Bonn Government seems to feel relieved because it is not required to make direct contributions to the sanctions against the USSR."

"Bonn is pleased by indications that the downing of the airliner will not affect the missile talks in Geneva..."

"Reagan Reacted Soberly"

Pro-Social Democratic Neue Ruhr Zeitung of Essen judged that "Reagan reacted soberly, that is, hard in tone but moderate on the issue. Reagan believes that the world powers have to talk to each other in the future. This approach lets us breathe a sigh of relief and prompts hope..."

U.S. Reaction "Gratifying"

Pro-Christian Democratic Frankfurter Neue Presse held that "the only gratifying aspect of the entire affair is the U.S. reaction....Even though he condemned the crime, President Reagan did nothing that might seriously burden the arms control negotiations which he considers even more important than ever."

How Many Soviets Accept Moscow Version?

Bonn's independent General-Anzeiger observed, "Moscow has approached cruel reality in small steps. It no longer denies downing the jumbo jet, but it claims that the dead are victims of the CIA. Nobody knows how many Soviet citizens accept this information..."

"Reagan Reacted As a Statesman"

Munich's left-of-center Sueddeutsche Zeitung ran the headline "Reagan Acted as Statesman" over Washington correspondent Klaus Arnsperger's story that "By his measured reaction the President has above all seen to it that the (incident) does not lead to U.S.-Soviet confrontation..."

TV Two's Washington correspondent Dieter Kronzucker reported last night that "many Americans believe that the sanctions announced by President Reagan are not sufficient..."

A Moscow correspondent said that TASS made clear that the United States had the knowledge to prevent this incident....Politically speaking the situation is clear. Both superpowers accuse each other of being responsible..."

TV One's correspondent in New York, Ulrich Wickert, declared last night, "There is a propaganda war going on in the United Nations....The Soviet delegate in the U.N. did not react to the tapes. He pointed to the constant violation of Soviet airspace by U.S. intelligence planes..."

#### WEST BERLIN

##### "Soviet Union Made Giant Step to Come Closer to Truth"

Independent Tagesspiegel said, "The Soviet Union yesterday took a giant step to come closer to the truth. It confessed..."

"President Reagan, in his calm and controlled reaction to that incredible incident, demanded that the USSR not only confess but also give compensation for the loss of lives and guarantees that such an incident will never happen again..."

##### "President's Call Meets Embarrassment Among Allies"

Independent Berliner Morgenpost said today, "There are crimes in the international community that really cry for punishing counter measures and the wicked act of downing the airliner doubtlessly was such a crime..."

"But the sanctions announced by President Reagan are very moderate, and his call to join the action meets with embarrassment among the allies, including Bonn..."

#### DENMARK

##### "SAS Pilots to Boycott Soviets for 60 Days"

Headlines today included: "Soviets: We Shot Down The Korean Plane" (Politiken), "Limited American Reaction to Air Drama" and "SAS Pilots to Boycott Soviets for 60 Days" (Berlingske Tidende), "Hard Words But Mild Sanctions" (Aktuelt), and "Japanese Official: Russians Lie About Navigation Lights on Shot Down Jumbo Jet" (Jyllands-Posten).



"Widespread Western Support For American Line"

In its lead editorial today conservative Berlingske Tidende calls President Reagan's reaction "firm and restrained and says "there will be widespread support within the Western Alliance for the American line which maintains that the efforts to reach an understanding with the Soviet Union at the two Geneva conferences...must continue despite the tragic episode..."

"A Russian Military Blunder"

Last night's Danish television news led with the plane tragedy, said the Soviets admitted shooting down the Korean airliner and quoted "Washington sources" as describing the President's speech as "strong but limited in action."

In a brief commentary, Danish foreign policy expert Professor Erling Bjøl observed: "It was a Russian military blunder, but in the long run there is no reason to believe it will have any influence on the ongoing missile negotiations."

AUSTRIA

"President Reagan's Reaction Very Moderate"

In Vienna, a television commentary last night said: "If we bear in mind this pressure (from American public opinion), (Reagan's) reaction was very moderate. (He) has done nothing to aggravate the international atmosphere."

"The Americans Want to Keep Talking to the Soviets"

A front-page editorial in the independent Die Presse today held that "Ronald Reagan's so-called sanctions against the Soviet Union are in sharp contrast with his tough language. The Americans want to keep talking to the Soviets..."

IRELAND

"Soviets Were in No Rush to Explain or Clarify"

In Dublin today, the liberal Irish Times characterized the plane drama as "either a tragic mistake or an appalling crime. The Soviet Union's behavior since the event would seem to suggest the latter...for there was no rush to explain, or to clarify, and the admission that Soviet planes did indeed 'stop' the airliner has come...only when the Kremlin had decided the propaganda tide is turning in its favor..."

"Admission Proof of Force of International Opinion"

The nationalistic, conservative Irish Press carried an editorial commenting that "the admission last night from Moscow that it did, after all, shoot down the South Korean passenger plane is proof" of the force of international opinion. It added that the statement, "though welcome, still falls short of what international opinion demands in the wake of such a disaster..."

SPAIN

"Gromyko Has 269 Dead People on His Shoulders"

In Madrid today five major dailies headlined the closing sessions of the CSCE Conference and the arrival of Secretary Shultz and other foreign ministers, with comments on how the KAL episode might affect the results.

Conservative ABC today carried a front page photo of Gromyko's airport arrival with the headline, "269 Dead People on His Shoulders." The paper called the Russians to account for the "horrendous crime committed against Korean aviation."

TURKEY

"U.S. Confesses Reconnaissance Plane in Area"

Independent Gunes today carried a headline "Now The United States Confession: 'We Flew A Spy Plane in the Area.'" The paper stated that the "White House in an announcement stated that the Soviet Union mistook the South Korean airplane with an American reconnaissance plane which flew in the area one and one-half to two hours before the incident.

CANADA

Soviet Pilots' Tape and Ambassador Kirkpatrick's Remarks Noted

Nationally-distributed Globe and Mail and the Toronto Star both carried the full text of the Soviet pilots' communication with their base in complete news accounts of Ambassador Kirkpatrick's UN address.

The Ottawa Citizen published a cartoon of Andropov on the telephone to President Reagan, captioned, "For goodness sake, Ronnie, everybody makes mistakes!" In a wide gesture, Andropov's arm swept perilously close to the nuclear button as he spoke.

"We Should Move Quickly to the Next Step"

The paper said: "Now that the Russians have abandoned their lying and confessed that they did indeed shoot down the Korean Airliner's 747, we should move quickly to the next step: finding ways to ensure that no airliner can ever again be shot down in such circumstances.

"There are frightening implications for all of us to discover that the same people who have the potential to fire nuclear rockets can suffer so badly from stupidity and disorganization..."

"Sanctions Can Be a Mug's Game"

Under the title "Firm but Prudent," the Globe and Mail wrote: "Sanctions can be a mug's game. As a weapon in the arsenal of diplomacy, they can be useful in expressing disapproval, yet prove ineffective in correcting the behavior of which the sanction-wielder disapproved. And at times they may inflict more discomfort on the countries imposing the sanctions than upon the country they are attempting to punish.

"For these reasons, the Western powers have faced a delicate mission in devising an appropriate retaliation against the Soviet Union for its Korean Airline massacre. On the basis of the sanctions announced Monday in Ottawa and in Washington, it appears that the leaders on this continent have succeeded in setting the right balance between firmness and prudence."

EASTERN EUROPE

SOVIET UNION

"Reagan Malicious...Brazen...Hysterical"

In Moscow today, Pravda political observer Vitaliy Korionov wrote that "the malicious anti-Soviet campaign unleashed by the White House in connection with the aircraft that violated Soviet borders has assumed an unprecedented scale.

"Hysterical statements by the President (Reagan) are following one after another, with each one surpassing the last in terms of brazenness. But facts are stubborn things and cannot be refuted even by the indecent rhetoric....A most flagrant violation of a sovereign state's borders has occurred--a violation that was obviously planned and provocative...

"Monstrous Sandwich of Lies and Hatred"

Izvestiya carried a byliner's comments today that "U.S. President Reagan was following his usual repertoire (in his speech). He started with a prayer, ended with God's blessing and between the prayer and the blessing he offered American television viewers a monstrous sandwich of lies and hatred--lies about the South Korean plane which made a provocative flight over Soviet territory and hatred for (the Soviet Union and) its people..."

"Washington Unleashed Noisy Propaganda Campaign"

Moscow domestic radio in Russian today said, "Washington has unleashed a noisy propaganda campaign surrounding the flight of the South Korean aircraft which intruded into the Soviet Union's air space in the Far East."

"KAL Planes Fly With Lights Out Near Soviet Borders"

A TASS dispatch in English from Ottawa today held that "passenger planes of the South Korean airline KAL fly with their lights out close to the borders of the Soviet Union. This follows from accounts by many passengers who repeatedly flew the airline planes from New York to Seoul."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Speech Dismissed as "Anti-Soviet Tirade"

The Czechoslovak media, quoting TASS extensively, have dismissed President Reagan's speech as an anti-Soviet tirade aimed at covering up U.S. responsibility for the plane incident.

The daily newspaper Rude Pravo today commented that "the President had to admit to two important facts which put the U.S. version of the incident in an entirely different light--that the Korean plane was in the proximity of an RC-135 and that the cause of the airplane's deviation into Soviet air space was a human decision rather than a mechanical error."

The paper concluded that the speech indicates the Reagan Administration's decision to "increase international tensions, step up feverish armament, develop weapons of mass destruction (and) thwart arms control measures..."

EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

JAPAN

Soviet Guilt, Eagleburger Statement, Tapes at U.N.

Tokyo television networks today lead their news programs with the Soviet announcement acknowledging for the first time that its fighter shot down the KAL plane.

The networks ran Washington reports of Under Secretary Eagleburger's statement, citing him as saying that the Soviet Union had not apologized, nor had it accepted responsibility for the incident.

The networks also gave prominent coverage to reports from the U.N. describing Ambassador Kirkpatrick's playing of the tapes of the Soviet pilot's conversation.

"U.S. Makes Public Full Contents of Tapes at UNSC"

Moderate Tokyo Shimbun today frontpaged a report on the UNSC session yesterday under this headline: "U.S. Makes Public Full Contents of Record of Communications--KAL Plane Incident at U.N. Security Council, Pilot Comes Ahead of Target, Once Retreats, Takes Aim, Reproduced Through Live Broadcasting in Conference Room."

"Reagan Measures Unexpectedly Flexible But Show Wise Attitude "

The paper judged in an editorial that the sanctions announced by President Reagan "were unexpectedly flexible" but that he "carefully avoided taking strong measures such as suspending the U.S.-Soviet disarmament negotiations which would have a serious effect on relations between the two countries and the international situation.

"This is a wise attitude because it indicates a posture of continuing U.S.-Soviet dialogue....We strongly hope that at the U.S.-Soviet meeting of Foreign Ministers in Madrid the Soviets will take a sincere stand on the KAL incident so that the misfortune could be turned into an opportunity for improving relations."

"We Appreciate Reagan's Restrained TV Speech"

Today's moderate Mainichi declared in an editorial: "We appreciate the restrained contents of President Reagan's TV speech....If the Soviet Union is isolated from international society, it would be impossible to make the Soviets assume their responsibilities and it would also block detente and prevention of such incidents again."

### Japanese Cabinet to Discuss Countermeasures Today

Today's liberal Asahi and other papers ran front-page reports stating that the cabinet would meet today to discuss countermeasures to cope with the shooting down of the airliner and that attention would center on President Reagan's call to other nations to ban Aeroflot flights to their countries as part of sanctions against the USSR.

### SOUTH KOREA

#### Major Media Attention to Reagan Speech, UNSC Meeting

Seoul media today gave extensive attention to the Reagan speech and to reports on the U.N. Security Council session on the KAL incident.

#### "America's Lukewarm Retaliatory Measures"

All papers held that the U.S. retaliatory measures were "lukewarm, and not strong enough to force Soviet submission to international opinion for compensation." However, the papers expressed understanding of the U.S. situation and placed high expectation on indications that the United States would respond strongly to the Soviet reactions in close cooperation with U.S. allies.

#### "Suspension of Aeroflot Flights Would Deal Serious Blow to USSR"

Today's independent Hankook Ilbo wrote: "Although President Reagan avoided accepting tougher measures against the USSR, we would like to pay special attention to his remarks that he may adopt follow-up and supplemental measures against the USSR.

"If President Reagan's call for the suspension of flights by Aeroflot is accepted by a number of allies, the suspension would deal quite a serious political and psychological blow to the USSR.

"The effects of the measures announced by President Reagan would be guaranteed not by the degree of their toughness but by joint action by the Western allies."

#### Live Coverage of UNSC Session

KBS television gave live coverage to correspondent reports on the UNSC meeting yesterday, and all six Korean-language papers gave prominent front-page play to Ambassador Kirkpatrick's introduction of the tape recordings of the Soviet pilot's communications.

### Call for Immediate UNGA Meeting

Today's conservative Donga Ilbo said in an editorial that "the discussion of the KAL incident and adoption of a resolution through the UNGA could probably avoid facing the veto power of the USSR." The paper went on to urge an immediate convening of the UNGA session without waiting for the regular meeting schedule.

### PHILIPPINES

#### "Reagan Imposed Limited Sanctions"

All major papers today front-paged President Reagan's Monday speech under such heads as "Reagan Imposes Limited Restrictions (Times Journal) and "Reagan Softens Response" (Manila Times).

### HONG KONG

#### Reagan Severe in Condemnation But Moderate in Sanctions

Center-right Sing Tao Jih Pao today held that the U.S. President had been severe in his condemnation but moderate in sanctions against the Soviets. The paper said "he must understand that the unprecedented Soviet bestiality has incited indignation all over the world.

"President Reagan should call for concerted, collective action by all other powerful free world countries."

#### "U.S. Sanctions Only a Handtap"

The independent South China Morning Post today held that the announced U.S. measures against the Soviets "were a veritable handtap and can in no way represent the gravity and concern that large numbers of people feel all over the world at the outrageous (Soviet) attack....The Russians are clearly going to lose no sleep over President Reagan's action."

#### "This May be a Canny Move by U.S. Administration"

An editorial in the independent Hong Kong Standard wrote today: "To some the tough talk and the soft action seem contradictaory and disconcerting. But Mr. Reagan, after much thought, do doubt believes the best reaction is a moral one which costs little and earns high dividends. If so, this is one of the canniest moves by the Reagan Administration which may have decided rhetoric when used right is a finer strategy than bungling deeds."

## SOUTH ASIA

### INDIA

#### "Reagan Announces 'Mild' Sanctions"

President Reagan's TV address was a front-page story in major national newspapers today. Also highlighted was the Soviets' admission to shooting down the Korean plane.

Headlines today included "Reagan Seeks Quarantine of Aeroflot" (Statesman), "Reagan Avoids Tough Sanctions: U.S. Reprisals Against Russia" (Times of India) and "Reagan Announces 'Mild' Sanctions" (Hindustan Times).

#### "Restraint Has Reassuring Effect on Public Opinion"

The independent Hindustan Times' Washington correspondent V. Balasubramanian today wrote, "The harsh rhetoric of President's Reagan's address to the nation might have been music to the ideological hardliners or anti-Soviet hawks in the United States.

"But the restraint in his retaliatory intentions seems to have had a reassuring effect over a wider area of the political spectrum or public opinion where the great and grave issues of arms control and peaceful coexistence in this nuclear age are regarded as the supreme determinants of superpower relations."

#### "A Set of Mild Measures"

The left-of-center Times of India's J. N. Parimoo reported that President Reagan announced "a set of mild measures to retaliate against the Soviet Union...All negotiations with the Soviet Union on bilateral level have been suspended. This includes the agreement on scientific and cultural exchanges and an obscure agreement on transportation."

#### "No Guarantee Such Acts Will Not Occur in the Future"

In editorial comment on other aspects of the downing of the Korean plane, the Telegraph of Calcutta said: "If the cold war tensions continue to exacerbate, there will unfortunately be no guarantee that utterly reprehensible acts like the shooting down of a passenger plane will not recur in the future."

In Delhi, Urdu-language Tej asked Moscow to not only own up to its responsibility but to pay compensation to the bereaved.



SRI LANKA

"Heated Verbal Battle Between Superpowers"

Headlines in Colombo today were "Reagan Announces Mild Reprisals Including Efforts to Halt Exports to Soviet Union" (Dinapathi) and "Exports to Soviet Union Halted. Talks Suspended. U.S. Retaliation for Jet Incident." (Virakesari) and "Heated Verbal Battle Between Superpowers Over Ill-fated Aircraft" (Dawasa).

PAKISTAN

"Retaliatory Measures Will Only Add to Tensions"

Islambad's influential Dawn said today that "any attempt to make political capital out of the incident could have serious repercussions. Thus, the retaliatory measures President is contemplating against the Soviet Union will only add to the tensions in Soviet-American relations."

BANGLADESH

"Reagan Says: Moscow Must Apologize to People of the World"

Headlines in Dhaka today included "U.S. Halts Strategic Exports to USSR: Reagan Seeks Compensation (Bangladesh Observer), "Our Immediate Challenge to Soviet Atrocity Is To Insure Safety of Skies, Says Reagan: Moscow Must Apologize to People of the World (Ittefaq), "Moscow Asked to Apologize: Reagan Announces Reprisals" (New Nation) and "Reagan Announces Postponement of Communication...U.S. Has Adopted Nazi Tactics for Creating Tension, Moscow Charges" (pro-Moscow Sanagbad).

NEPAL

"Can Raise Doubts Over Following Soviet Peace-loving Policies"

In Kathmandu, semi-official Gorkhapatra today stated that "this incident can raise doubts over the following of Soviet peace-loving policies...It is imperative to consider measures at the international level for adequate safety of passengers traveling in civilian flights, in the same way international action are being taken to curb air piracy."

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL

"U.S. Persists in Demanding Soviets Offer Apology"

In Tel Aviv, independent Maariv's Washington correspondent Oded Granot today reported that the United States last night clarified that it was "not satisfied with the Soviet admission that its planes downed the jumbo and is persisting in its demand that the Soviet Union deliver all the details concerning the affair and that it offer an apology..."

SAUDI ARABIA

"Americans and Soviets Almost Equally Responsible"

Saudi-owned London-edited al-Sharq al-Awsat in an editorial today said, "The unfolding of more details about the incident make it appear that the Americans and the Soviets are almost equally responsible for the downing of the Korean airliner. True, the Soviets killed about 270 people, but the Americans are not entirely innocent of the blood of these victims..."

"Blood of 269 Victims on the Hands of the United States Too"

The English-language Arab News, sister paper of al-Sharq al-Awsat, commented: "The Soviet action was condemned by international public opinion ...but few people will be impressed by Reagan's fulminations..."

"Reagan is unabashedly hiding the truth even with regard to the immediate incident by not owning to any U.S. responsibility for the fate of the Korean aircraft. Does he not know that the 'routine' presence of U.S. spy planes near one of the world's busiest airline routes at least provides the Russians a pretext for their act? The blood of the 269 victims in the tragedy is on the hands of the United States too..."

KUWAIT

"Kuwait Hopes U.N. Will Take Measures to Prevent Recurrence"

Kuwaiti papers, in reporting President Reagan's speech, focused on retaliatory measures to be undertaken by the United States.

All dailies reported a statement by the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry expressing Kuwait's regret for the loss of life but without apportioning blame or mentioning the Soviet Union.

The statement said, "Kuwait, like all countries concerned with the security of civil aviation, hopes that all countries would take every possible measure to avoid subjugating the safety and security of this crucial artery of communications between countries and peoples of the world to any similar dangers and tragedies..."

"Kuwait hopes that the Security Council reaches the appropriate and objective measures that would prevent the recurrence of such incidents."

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

##### "Moscow Charges American Intelligence With Responsibility"

Headlines today included "Soviets Admit Downing Korean Airliner" (semi-official al-Ittihad of Abu Dhabi), "Reagan Accuses Soviets of Downing Korean Airplane and Announces Retaliatory Measures; Moscow: Plane Was Spying and Radio Message Make Clear Nature of Its Mission" (semi-official al-Bayan of Dubai) and "Moscow Regrets Deaths of Victims...and Charges American Intelligence With Responsibility" (anti-U.S. al-Khaleej of Abu Dhabi).

#### EGYPT

##### "Wise Contemplation of Problem a Good Lesson"

Government affiliated al-Gomhouriya in an editorial today said that "the United States has resorted to the United Nations despite the fact that the United States well knows that a Security Council resolution in this case is difficult, if not impossible, because of the Soviet veto."

"In this context, we, the Arabs, should derive a lesson from the U.S. attitude, i.e., the importance of wise contemplation of a problem and never to resort to force and rashness to solve problems..."

"It is true that Washington is agitated but in all probability it will not go to war with the Soviet Union over the incident. This is the more important lesson which small countries should know and learn, i.e., that however close they are to one of the major powers they will always remain small enough not to cause a war between the superpowers over 200 or so victims (of such a tragedy)."

## LATIN AMERICA

### MEXICO

#### Wide Newsplay in Mexico City

Six of the nine Mexico City newspapers gave extensive coverage of yesterday's UN session and to the Russian acknowledgement that a Soviet pilot had downed the Korean 747.

#### "'To Deviate From a Course Is Not a Capital Sin': Kirkpatrick"

Mexico City headlines read today "Soviet Union Confesses Shooting Down Korean PLane" (Prensa), "Moscow Acknowledges Its Role in 'Stopping' Korean Flight" (Unomasuno), "Moscow Admits Shooting...Pilots Will Boycott Soviet Union...Several Countries Assessing Sanctions" (Heraldo) and "U.S. Shows UN How Commercial Jet Was Shot Down... 'To Deviate From a Course Is Not a Capital Sin': Kirkpatrick" (Novedades).

#### "Soviet Excuse Ridiculous"

A columnist for El Sol asserted, "The Soviet excuse that it shot down the plane in an effort to preserve its sovereignty at any cost is ridiculous."

#### "One Should Not Deepen World Tension"

Marxist El Dia maintained: "Perhaps before condemning the Soviet Union a priori, one would have to listen to the Soviets and not engage in verbal campaigns which could deepen world tension. However, if it is proved that Soviet pilots and their superiors acted with the knowledge that the Korean plane was only making a civilian flight, worldwide condemnation could be considered as fair, necessary and timely..."

### COLOMBIA

In Bogota today, liberal El Espectador headlined, "Cowardly Soviet Killings...Russia Admits It Shot Down Jumbo."

#### "Reagan Prefers to Go Slowly"

Conservative La Republica contended that "many have not been happy with President Reagan's speech because of his restraint on sanctions against the Russians....But Reagan would not commit the same error that Carter did following the Communist invasion of Afghanistan..."

"Shortly after Carter stopped selling grain to the Russians, other nations stepped in to fill the breach. Reagan prefers...not to play all of his cards at once. For that reason, his prudence in dealing with the Russian bear is well taken..."

#### CHILE

##### Widespread News Coverage on Plane Downing

Chilean papers in Santiago today gave widespread coverage of Moscow's admission to shooting down the plane, yesterday's UN session and the civilian pilots' boycott decision.

#### COSTA RICA

##### "Could Soviets Unleash World Conflict by Error?"

San Jose's leading independent La Nacion in an editorial page column today stated, "The question is, does this mean that the Soviets could also unleash a world conflict through error?"

"Whatever our preference for rationalizing, we will always be confronted with a regime capable of an evident massacre yet which, by its closed oppressive nature, eliminates any possibility for independent investigation.

"This means that perhaps in the future no one will be able to avoid an even worse catastrophe."

#### AFRICA

#### ZIMBABWE

##### "South Koreans Should Be Blamed"

The Herald of Harare said in an editorial "This is the second time that South Korean scheduled planes on that route have been in trouble with the Russians. It would be stretching imagination too far to suggest that these pilots are so clumsy they have done it accidentally..."